



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Norwood Applauds IRS Investigation of NEA

(Washington, DC) – U.S. Representative and Chairman of the House Workforce Protections Subcommittee Charlie Norwood (GA-09) called the current investigation by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regarding the financial practices and political expenditures of the National Education Association (NEA) “welcomed news.”

“America’s hard-working teachers who are members of the NEA deserve to know how their union dues are being spent,” said Norwood. “At the Subcommittee hearing held last year, it was clear that someone needed to shine a bright light on the books at the NEA. It’s good to hear the IRS has decided to open the shades at the NEA and finally get some answers for the teachers.”

In June of 2002, Norwood chaired a House Workforce Protections Subcommittee hearing entitled “An Assessment of the Use of Union Dues for Political Purposes Against the Will of the Rank and File.” The primary purpose of the hearing, which heard testimony from Mark Levin, President of the Landmark Legal Foundation, and Robert Chanin, General Counsel for the NEA, was to help determine whether labor unions – most notably, the NEA – violated the Internal Revenue Code by spending tax-exempt funds on political activities without reporting such activities. Following the hearing, Norwood forwarded a letter to IRS officials requesting a formal investigation into these matters.

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